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DCI/IC 74-0599

12 March 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence, CIA  
Attention: Mr. Richard Lehman

Deputy Director for Intelligence, DIA  
Attention:

Deputy Director of Intelligence and Research,  
Department of State  
Attention: Mr. David Mark

SUBJECT: Second Meeting of Committee on Daily and Weekly  
National Products

1. Since we last met on 15 February, the working subcommittee has had a series of meetings. These have resulted in a jointly agreed proposal for a daily national product, the National Intelligence Bulletin (NIB). A copy of this proposal is attached.

2. I suggest we meet to review this proposal in my office (Room 6E 04, CIA Headquarters) at 1400 on 18 March. It would be my hope that after our review we could forward our recommendations concerning the NIB for USIB action at their 4 April session.

3. In addition to addressing the NIB proposal per se, I would also like to discuss the problem of interagency communications systems. The working subcommittee identified one of the major stumbling blocks we face as our relatively poor communications means, i.e., LDX and secure phone. As you know, several improved systems of communication are being considered to bridge this gap. However, in the interim we must recognize that our common interest in producing a close to real-time daily national product must consider the effects of our present limited communications capability. Until such time as new communications means become operational, the use of personal representatives of the individual agencies at the headquarters location of the NIB staff may well be crucial to the success of our mutual effort. For this reason, I would like to discuss this point in particular with you at our meeting.

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4. As was the case in our last meeting, you may wish to be accompanied by the officer you have assigned to the working subcommittee.









Director, Product Review  
Group

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Attachment

IC/PRG:PFCA:bg

Distribution:

- 1 - Ea. Addressee
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11 March 1974

PROPOSAL FOR THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN (NIB)

1. Title of the Product

National Intelligence Bulletin (NIB)

2. Periodicity and Format

Daily except Sundays and holidays. Format generally to follow that of the CIB. Cover will include seals of CIA, DIA, and Department of State.

3. Content

NIB will average about ten articles a day focusing upon issues of particular interest to the national consumer. It will also include a brief (usually single-page) summary of the highlights of world-wide events of general interest but not meriting detailed articles.

4. Classification

The classification level of the NIB will be affected by the results of the current test product, the National Intelligence Daily (NID). The NID includes GAMMA, EXDIS, and sensitive DDO source materials and thus is provided to a restricted audience (circulation--46 copies). If the NID becomes a regular product provided to the highest level national consumers, the NIB classification will be TS/SI/TK/NFD. If the NID does not become a regular product, the NIB will be produced in two versions--a limited all-source edition for the present recipients of the NID and a second edition at the TS/SI/TK/NFD level.

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5. Circulation

Approximately 300 copies provided to the same audience as the present CIB.

6. NIB Production Responsibility

Produced under the aegis of the Director of Central Intelligence in his capacity as head of the intelligence community.

7. Executive Agent for NIB Production

Director of the Office of Current Intelligence (OCI), Central Intelligence Agency. As both the President's Daily Brief (PDB) and the National Intelligence Daily (NID) are under his purview, the assignment of Director, OCI as executive agent for the NIB is necessary in order to insure coordination between these various products.

8. Location of Editorial Offices

At the headquarters of CIA.

9. Publication Facilities

CIA's. As NIB replaces CIB, this will constitute no increased publication workload.

10. Role of Major Production Agencies in NIB

a. Provided opportunity to prepare and submit original articles for publication.

b. Encouraged to express any dissenting views on articles prepared for publication by other agencies.

c. Offered opportunity to provide personnel to the NIB

editorial staff.

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11. NIB Staffing

a. During at least the first year of NIB production, CIA will fill the position of managing editor.

b. As the NIB will replace the CIB, the CIB editorial and clerical staff will be assigned to the NIB staff.

c. DIA and INR each will be invited to assign a senior officer (perhaps at the GS-15, O-6 level) for a one-year tour of duty as an assistant managing editor of the NIB. Personnel so assigned will have had editorial experience, a broad background in current intelligence matters, and a recent and detailed knowledge of their own agencies.

d. DCI will be responsible for the salaries of personnel assigned to the NIB staff.

e. CIA, DIA and INR each will appoint a senior officer to be its in-house NIB representative. Personnel so assigned will occupy a position which enables them to speak with authority in the name of their agency; be knowledgeable of the national intelligence issues which are of the highest interest to the principal consumers of their agency's products; be able to advise the NIB staff on articles which their agency intends to nominate for publication; and be able to insure that all of their agency's articles are properly reviewed and staffed within their own agency and provided to the NIB editors within the established publication deadlines.

12. Presentation of Original Articles for NIB Publication

a. NIB staff will each day provide to the in-house NIB representative in each agency a tentative list of topics for

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inclusion in the next day's NIB. Where possible the NIB staff will suggest assignments for the preparation of first drafts.

b. Regardless of which agency may take the lead in drafting an article, any agency that wishes to prepare an alternative article on the same subject is free to do so.

c. NIB representatives within each agency will be encouraged to provide other articles than those proposed by the NIB staff.

d. Articles and dissents should be provided by the drafter to both the NIB staff and all other production agencies. Deadlines for both will be established by the NIB staff.

13. Expression of Dissent in NIB

a. Problems arising from drafts discussed among agencies on informal basis.

b. Unresolved dissents provided by LDX or secure phone to NIB staff.

c. NIB staff will normally incorporate agency dissents into body of article and provide the new text to all agencies prior to publication.

d. When dissents are too long or too complex to be handled in this manner NIB staff may publish alternative views as discrete pieces either accompanying the original article or, where the dissenting agencies so choose, at a later date.

14. Handling of Late Breaking Item by NIB

a. The NIB will make use of existing procedures, i.e., Agency SDOs and operation centers, to assist in the preparation of late item.

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b. The NIB staff will adapt existing machinery to receive inputs from the production agencies and to provide the editing and publishing of late items.

15. NIB Implementation Plan

a. Approval by Steering Group of NIB proposal (Director Product Review Group, IC Staff; Director, OCI, CIA; Deputy Director for Intelligence, DIA; Deputy Director INR, Department of State).

b. Approval by USIB of NIB concept.

c. Staff NIB and identify representatives of NIB within each agency.

d. NIB managing editor conduct test period for NIB to insure effectiveness of proposed NIB production mechanisms.

e. Upon completion of testing, place NIB in full production.

16. NIB Target Dates (Tentative)

a. Steering Group Approval - 18 March

b. Presentation to USIB - 4 April

c. NIB Staffing Completed - 18 April

d. NIB Testing - 25 April - 14 May

e. NIB Publication - 18 May